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FedEx

April 2, 2013

Ms Cynthia T Brown  
Chief of the Section of Administration,  
Office of Proceedings  
Surface Transportation Board  
395 E. Street, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20423

ENTERED  
Office of Proceedings

APR 05 2013

Part of  
Public Record



Re: **STB Docket No. AB-1097 X- Pickens Railway Company- Abandonment Exemption- in Pickens County, SC**

Dear Ms. Brown:

The City of Easley, South Carolina, and the City of Pickens, South Carolina (collectively, the "Cities") on September 27, 2012, filed with the Surface Transportation Board ("STB") a joint request for the issuance of a Public Use Condition and Interim Trail Use Condition and Statement of Willingness to Assume Financial Responsibility ("Requests") in connection with the rail line which is the subject of the above abandonment petition.

The STB on October 26, 2012, issued its Decision and Notice of Interim Trail Use or Abandonment wherein, *inter alia*, it issued a Notice of Interim Trail Use ("NITU") for the subject rail line and granted the parties a period of 180 days to negotiate a sale of the rail line to the Cities. This 180 day period will expire April 24, 2012.

The Cities and Pickens Railway Company have made progress in negotiations regarding a sale of the subject rail line to the Cities, but the parties require additional time to continue and hopefully complete those negotiations. Therefore, the Cities, with the consent of Pickens Railway Company, jointly request that the STB extend the parties' negotiation period for an additional period of 180 days.

**FILED FEE WAIVED**

The Cities enclose a check for \$450 00 as the filing fee for this extension request. However, because the Cities are both governmental entities under the laws of South Carolina, we request that this fee be waived under 49 CFR Section 1002.2(c)(1) and returned to the Cities.

An additional ten copies of this letter also are enclosed for the STB's use.

Sincerely yours,

City of Easley

By: 

Fox Simons, City Administrator

City of Pickens

By: 

Katherine Brackett, City Administrator

Pickens Railway Company hereby consents to the Cities' above request to extend the parties' negotiation period for an additional 180 days.

Pickens Railway Company

By: 

Title: President

cc

Rose-Michele Nardi

Transport Counsel PC

1701 Pennsylvania Ave , N.W.

Suite 300

Washington, D C. 20006